PEOPLES TEMPLE AGRICULTURAL MISSION
P.O. Box 685, Georgetown, Guyana

(1147)

15 October, 1978

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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Hon Dwig Ellice
U.S. Embassy
31 Main Street, C/burg
Georgetown, GUYANA

Dear Mr Ellice:

I am writing to inform you that Rev. Jim Jones is very sorry about letters you have been receiving concerning alleged rumors circulating about Peoples Temple. We do not know who the people are who have been doing the letter-writing. It is possible that there are people who are attempting to create problems for us by doing this sort of thing: indeed, the tactic has been employed in the past. We speculate that it may be the work of people involved in the Katsaris case, which is in our view part of an intense campaign of harassment against Peoples Temple and Rev. Jones.

For the most part, everyone at the mission feels very good about you and the Embassy. The only sort of 'alienation' felt concerns occasions when different persons have been repeatedly called aside to talk to consulate representatives and answer personal questions. One individual, Mr. Parris, was called aside on three separate occasions and asked the same questions each time. Mr. Parris has each time, in a cordial manner, insisted that he is very happy in Jonestown. However, he finds it hard to comprehend the necessity of this sort of repeated interrogation. He has a woman companion in Jonestown who is also, understandibly, somewhat perturbed at this.

We are pleased that you do not feel that a personal visit is warranted or necessary to "check out" each rumor or falsehood that comes to your attention. It is obvious that you have been very warm to the members of Peoples Temple and we want to maintain good relations with the Embassy. I am sure that we can keep an "open channel" to take care of any problems or situations that might lead to misunderstanding.

Thank you very much for all the help and kindness you have extended toward us.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL CARTER